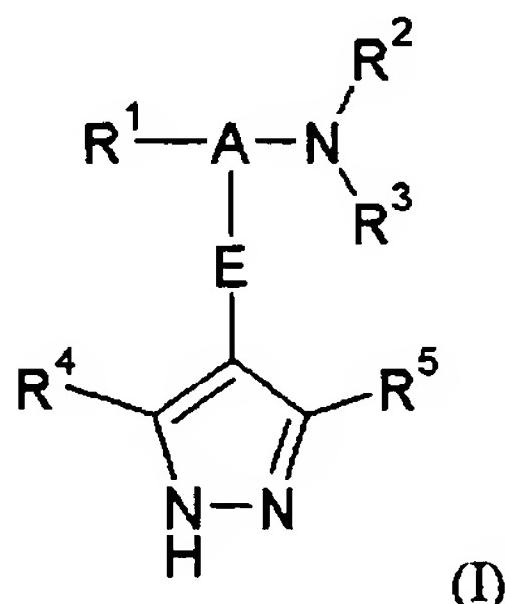


ABSTRACTPHARMACEUTICAL COMPOUNDS

The invention provides compounds of the formula (I) having protein kinase B inhibiting activity:



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- wherein A is a saturated hydrocarbon linker group containing from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, the linker group having a maximum chain length of 5 atoms extending between R<sup>1</sup> and NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup> and a maximum chain length of 4 atoms extending between E and NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup>, wherein one of the carbon atoms in the linker group may optionally be replaced by an oxygen or nitrogen atom; and wherein the carbon atoms of the linker group A may optionally bear one or more substituents selected from oxo, fluorine and hydroxy, provided that the hydroxy group when present is not located at a carbon atom  $\alpha$  with respect to the NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup> group and provided that the oxo group when present is located at a carbon atom  $\alpha$  with respect to the NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup> group;
- 10 15 E is a monocyclic or bicyclic carbocyclic or heterocyclic group;  
 R<sup>1</sup> is an aryl or heteroaryl group; and  
 R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as defined in the claims.

Also provided are pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds, methods for preparing the compounds and their use as anticancer agents.

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